

ST. JAMES THE LESS AND ST. HELEN

CATHOLIC CHURCH, COLCHESTER

WITH MERSEA, MILE END AND MONKWICK

1 PARISH, 4 CHURCHES, 1 COMMUNITY

Peace Sunday

SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (C)

Saturday 15th	Church	6.15 pm	Canon John Bloomfield
Sunday 16th	Church	8.00 am	Parishioners
	Church	10.30 am	Ints: Una Nagle + Family
	Church	2.00 pm	Polish Mass
	Church	6.30 pm	Private Intention
	West Mersea	8.30 am	Private Intention
	Mile End	9.15 am	Paul Richard B. Brusola RIP
	Monkwick	10.15 am	Ros Sutcliffe RIP
Monday 17th	Church	9.30 am	St Anthony, Ab Thanksgiving (Marisa + J.J.)
Tuesday 18th	Church	9.30 am	Feria Belen + Sally De Jesus RIP
Wednesday 19th	Church	9.30 am	Feria Madeline Smith RIP
Thursday 20th	Church	9.30 am	Feria John & Julie O'Connor RIP + Ints: Marco
Friday 21st	Church	9.30 am	St Agnes, V, M Ints: Toni + Derrick Foley
	Church	1.15 pm	Funeral Mass: Patrick William Bailey RIP
Saturday 22nd	Church	8.00 am	Memorial of the Blessed Virgin Mary Rosario + Sisenando De Jesus RIP
	THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (C)		Sunday of the Word of God
Saturday 22nd	Church	6.15 pm	Jean Shand RIP
Sunday 23rd	Church	8.00 am	Private Intention
	Church	10.30 am	Mrs. Theresa Udegbumam RIP
	Church	2.00 pm	Polish Mass
	Church	6.30 pm	Private Intention
	West Mersea	8.30 am	Parishioners
	Mile End	9.15 am	Ints: J.B.
	Monkwick	10.15 am	Anniversary: Celestine Tighe RIP

- ❖ For Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals, please email or contact our parish office.
- ❖ Visiting for the Sacrament of the Sick is possible, Please contact the Presbytery.
- ❖ Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession) Saturdays after 10am Mass and 5.30pm-6.00pm
- ❖ Mass Intentions. Envelopes are available in Church Porch and are situated either side of Church Entrance, please complete envelope & drop through presbytery door. A suggested minimum stipend is £10 per Mass. The Mass Intention will be published in the newsletter (available on the parish website or via Facebook or collection from Church).
- ❖ Colchester General Hospital: If you would like to arrange for a priest to visit a Catholic relative in hospital please contact the presbytery direct on (01206) 866317



Please check out our Facebook page for all the latest Parish/Diocese/Vatican news, Clergy/Church photos/videos. Please remember to [like](#) & [follow](#) our page!



Please note that Face Masks must be worn in Church, unless medically exempt.



St James the Less & St Helen

Parish Priest: Mgr. Christopher Brooks
 Assistant Priest: Fr. Paschal Uche
 Assistant Priest: Fr. Philip Willenbrock

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 St James the Less and St Helen RC Church, Colchester



SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (C)

PEACE SUNDAY

WEEK COMMENCING 16TH JANUARY 2022

I recently read that the 19th of January is quitter's day. Allegedly the day most new year's resolutions are abandoned. The article seemed to suggest that the solution to a good resolution lay not in lower ideals but more concrete habits. Following on from the Baptism of the Lord and the season of new beginnings, this week's readings fill us with fresh insights to continue to pursue the new life in Christ with deeper devotion this year. The wedding feast of Cana is a beautiful gospel. Through Our Lady's simple intercession, Christ miraculously produces an abundance of wine. The scene is packed with symbolism and imagery that invites us to see how the Old Covenant with Moses is giving way to the New Covenant in Christ. Firstly, we might consider the six stone jars. Six is a number of limitation not quite the perfect seven evoking a sense of wanting and waiting. The jars of stone remind us of stone tablets of the Ten Commandments that are broken by us but fulfilled perfectly by Christ. Finally, the water of survival Moses provides in the desert gives way to the new wine of joy to be found in Christ. At this wedding feast Christ is the bridegroom bringing us (the Church) his bride into a brand new life! A husband who only spoke to his wife once a week or randomly here and there would soon be on the way to quitter's day. In the same way it is the daily renewal of our love for God that keeps us filled with the spirit our whole life long.

Fr Paschal

PLEASE SEE MASS SCHEDULE FOR ALL CHANGES

DAILY	Morning Prayer	at 9.15 am
CHRISTIAN MEDITATION	Wednesdays (Cardinal Bourne Hall)	at 8.00 pm
DAILY Mon-Fri	Rosary/Divine Mercy	at 8.45 am
2 nd SUNDAY MONTHLY	Eucharistic Adoration	Temporarily suspended

Please refer to the Website Home Page or External Church Notice Board for details on Covid restrictions.

As a Reminder: Anyone displaying symptoms of Covid-19, or who has reason to believe that they have been in contact with someone who has, should not attend church or volunteer in any capacity until they have received medical advice that it is safe to do so.



THE POPE'S INTENTIONS FOR JANUARY: True Human Fraternity. We pray for all those suffering from religious discrimination and persecution; may their own rights and dignity be recognized, which originate from being brothers and sisters in the human family.

MARRIAGE MATTERS: (Isaiah 42:1-4, 6-7; Acts 10:34-38; Luke 3:15-16, 21-22) **Being what we promised to be.** Today's feast tells us who Jesus really is; it calls us to be what we promised at our wedding – a sign to the world of God's love for all of us. At the core of this commitment is the undertaking to trust our spouse with who we really are – feelings, thoughts, ideas; all that makes us who we are today.

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK: We continue to pray for those parishioners we know who are sick and housebound especially Elizabeth Pace, Hilda Morah, Nicollas and Adam Campbell-Vencarto, Jim Lynas, Maureen R. We pray for all persons who are ill or have contracted Covid-19 and their families.

RECENTLY DECEASED: Please pray for the repose of the soul of David Morton who has recently passed away. The parish community offers his family and friends our condolences and the assurance of our prayers at this most difficult time. Funeral details for David are to be advised.

SECOND COLLECTIONS: There will be a second collection taken after all Masses this weekend for Pax Christi. This year Pope Francis asks us to think about 'Education, work and dialogue between generations: tools for building lasting peace'.

NEXT SECOND COLLECTION: (SPUC) White Flower Appeal will take place on the 22+23rd January 2022.

MARRIAGE PREPARATION: Please be aware that 6 months' notice of intention for Marriage is required especially if marrying outside the Parish. Couples who are planning to get married should contact us **at least 6 months** in advance. Thank you.

CHRISTMAS CRIB COLLECTION IN AID OF THE BRENTWOOD CATHOLIC CHILDREN'S SOCIETY: In accordance with Diocesan policy, our Crib will remain in place until the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord [February 2nd] and these offerings will go to the (BCCS) Brentwood Catholic Children's Society.

M. B. ASHCROFT: We do not appear to have your current contact details; please can you contact the Presbytery at your convenience (nothing to worry about). Thank you.

DIOCESAN DIRECTORIES last 3 copies remaining in Church Porch. Priced at £2.80 per copy (money to go in "Repository" Box in church porch).

ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT FOR PARISH: Each year the parish publishes a financial report for parishioners (in Church Porch). This report is for the fiscal year 4th April 2020 to 5th April 2021. People often assume that the Church is very wealthy. This may be true in some Catholic countries but in the United Kingdom, our parishes receive no state funding and depend entirely on parishioners' offerings. Also, a third of our income goes immediately to the diocese to pay for the bishops, central administration. The remaining money is needed to pay for clergy, utility bills for the church buildings, halls and house, repairs and maintenance, insurance and all the expenses associated with the Sacred Liturgy, Catechesis and the various parish activities.

PARISH FINANCES: If you wish to make an offering/donation this can be done by: -

- Dropping envelope through Presbytery door (please write on envelope Mass Offering or Parish Maintenance) or in the Donation Basket situated at Church entrance & Exit
- Diocesan Online Donation platform (where donations can also be gift aided):-

Priory St: <https://www.dioceseofbrentwood.net/donations?parish=colchester>

Mile End: <https://www.dioceseofbrentwood.net/donations?parish=colchester-c>

Mersea: <https://www.dioceseofbrentwood.net/donations?parish=colchester-b>

Monkwick: <https://www.dioceseofbrentwood.net/donations?parish=colchester-d>

Everything that happens in our parish is only possible with your support. Thank you

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING: This will take place after the 10.30am Mass on 23rd January

2022 RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults): RCIA is the process developed by the Catholic Church for those who are interested in finding out more about the Catholic Faith, teachings and practices with a view to becoming Catholics, or for those who have a background in the Catholic Faith but who have not yet been confirmed, or for anyone who wants to refresh their knowledge of the Catholic Faith. To register your interest, please email your contact details colchester@dioceseofbrentwood.org. Thank You

SATURDAY EVENING SOUP RUN ROTA FOR HOMELESS/HOUSED: Volunteers are required (aged 18 + over) to make up a team of 4+ persons. Volunteers would have to be available one Saturday a month from about 5.30 to 8pm; this includes time for setting up & clearing up afterwards. Teams will be distributing the food and drinks and chat to the folks. (The soup run itself will be from 6.30-7.30pm, the location will be The Salvation Army Car Park, which is situated opposite the police station). If interested please contact SVP Tel: 07493 439427 or email: colchestersvp@gmail.com.

THRESHOLDS OF HOPE QUESTIONS: *What is the point of canon law?* will be given by Fr Gary Dench, assistant priest at Brentwood Cathedral by Zoom meetings on Sunday 16th January from 4pm to 5pm. To join this meeting just forward a contact email to adultformationvicariate@dioceseofbrentwood.org. For more info www.thresholdsofhope.co.uk

CHURCH CHOIR: The choir has been singing at Mass for a few weeks now. A huge thank you goes to Lesley Williamson for all the hard work she put in before the break due to the pandemic. Claire Williamson has taken over running the choir but more musicians and singers are needed. An organist is needed for the first Sunday of the month when Brian is engaged elsewhere. The choir sings at the 10:30am Mass at Priory Street and for all the major Feast Days. The Easter Triduum and the Vigil Mass are next on the calendar. Choir Practice takes place every two weeks so please contact Claire for more details on 07582253284. New Members Welcome.

RED MISSIO BOXES: Please collect your emptied boxes from the Presbytery Office.

SVP (St Vincent de Paul Society): Tel: 07493 439427 or email: colchestersvp@gmail.com

CHURCH CLEANING TEAM: Monday 17/01/22: **Team 4** / Thursday 27/01/22: **Team 1**
CBH COFFEE MORNING ROTA: 16/01/22 (Peggy & Anne) / 23/01/22 (Yolande + 1)

2022 Rotas are available in Church Porch.